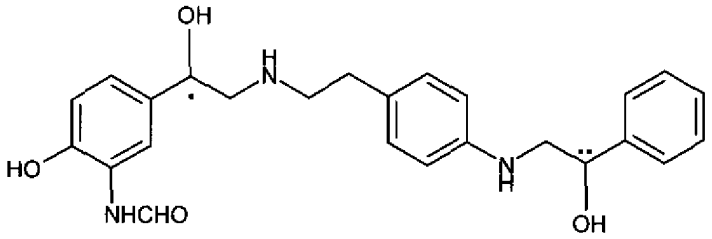
Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

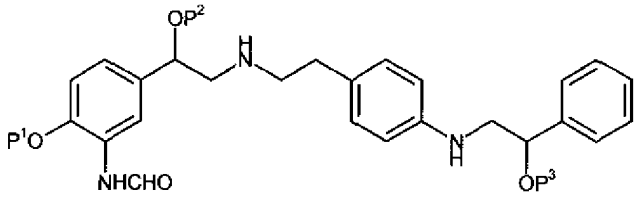
1. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a monohydrochloride salt of compound (I)



(I)

wherein *C and **C denote asymmetric carbon atoms, which process comprises the steps of:

a) contacting a compound of formula (II):



(II)

wherein P^1 represents a hydroxyl protecting group, and P^2 and P^3 each independently represents hydrogen or a protecting group;
with a weak acid, to effect selective protonation;

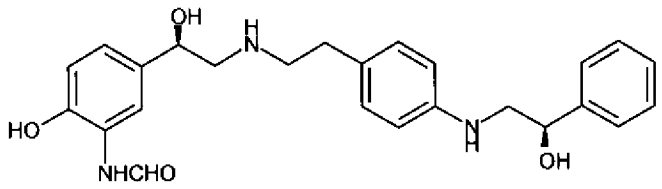
b) contacting the product of (a) with a source of chloride ions, to effect anion exchange;

c) deprotecting ~~deprotection~~ to remove P^1, and where necessary P^2 and P^3;

d) isolating ~~isolation of~~ compound (I) as the monohydrochloride; and optionally

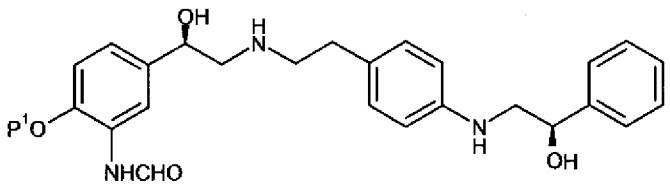
e) crystallizing or recrystallizing ~~crystallisation or recrystallisation of~~ compound (I).

2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is the compound (Ia):



(Ia)

and the compound of formula (II) is the compound (IIa):



(IIa)

wherein P^1 is as defined in claim 1.

3. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ wherein the weak acid is acetic acid.

4. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ wherein the group P^1 represents benzyl.

5. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ wherein the source of chloride ions is sodium chloride.

6. (Currently Amended) Crystalline monohydrochloride salt of the compound of formula (Ia) prepared by a process ~~A process~~ according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 5 for the preparation of a crystalline monohydrochloride salt of the compound of formula (Ia)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) Crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride ~~A process~~ according to claim 6 wherein the product of said process is characterised by an x-ray powder diffraction pattern in which the peak positions are substantially in accordance with the peak positions of the pattern shown in Fig. 1.

8. (Original) Crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride which is characterised by a differential scanning calorimetry trace which shows an absence of discernable endothermic features below about 125°C.

9. (Original) Crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride according to claim 8 which is characterised by a differential scanning calorimetry trace which shows an absence of discernable endothermic features below about 125°C, and an onset of significant endothermic heat flow at about 229°C.

10. (Currently Amended) Crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride according to claim 8 ~~or claim 9~~ which is characterised by a differential scanning calorimetry trace which shows an absence of discernable endothermic features below about 125°C, two or more minor endothermic events between about 130°C and about 180°C and an onset of significant endothermic heat flow at about 229°C.

11. (Original) Crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride according to claim 10 wherein said minor endothermic events occur at about 133°C, at about 151°C and at about 170°C.

12. (Original) Form 2 crystalline (Ia) mononhydrochloride in substantially pure form.

13. (Currently Amended) A process for obtaining Form 2 crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride in substantially pure form which process comprises:

Ba) forming a mixture of *N*-{2-[4-*((R)*-2-hydroxy-2-phenylethylamino)phenyl]ethyl}-(*R*)-2-hydroxy-2-(3-formamido-4-hydroxyphenyl) ethylamine monohydrochloride in an aqueous organic solvent, by contacting said monohydrochloride with said solvent and heating in a range from about 60°C to about 70°C~~, for example about 65°C~~;

Bb) adjusting the temperature of said mixture in the range from about 52°C to about 58°C; ~~for example about 55°C;~~

Bc) Seeding said mixture with Form 2 crystals;

Bd) cooling said mixture to a temperature in the range from about 15°C to 25°C;

Be) heating said mixture to a temperature in the range from about 47°C to about 52°C~~, for example about 50°C~~;

Bf) repeating steps Bd) and Be) to obtain the desired Form 2.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for the prophylaxis or treatment of a clinical condition in a mammal~~, such as a human~~, for which a selective β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist is indicated, which comprises administering ~~administration of~~ a therapeutically effective amount of Form 2 crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride.

15-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising Form 2 crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient, and optionally one or more other therapeutic ingredients.

18. (Original) A combination comprising Form 2 crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride and one or more other therapeutic ingredients.

19. (Original) A combination according to claim 18 wherein the other therapeutic ingredient is a PDE4 inhibitor or an anticholinergic or a corticosteroid.

20. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim 18 ~~either of claims 17 or 18~~ comprising Form 2 crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride and 6α,9α-difluoro-17α-[(2-furanylcarbonyl)oxy]-11β-hydroxy-16α-methyl-3-oxo-androsta-1,4-diene-17β-carbothioic acid *S*-fluoromethyl ester.

21. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim 18 ~~either of claims 17 or 18~~ comprising Form 2 crystalline (Ia) monohydrochloride and 6α,9α-difluoro-11β-hydroxy-16α-methyl-17α-[(4-methyl-1,3-thiazole-5-carbonl)oxy]-3-oxo-androsta-1,4-diene-17β-carbothioic acide *S*-fluoromethyl ester.

22. (New) A process according to claim 13, wherein said Ba) step comprises heating the mixture to a temperature of about 65°C.

23. (New) A process according to claim 13, wherein said Bb) step comprises adjusting the temperature of said mixture from about 52°C to about 55°C.

24. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein the mammal is a human.

25. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein the clinical condition is asthma.

26. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein the clinical condition is COPD.